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PATENT APPLICATION
10/645,739

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Shaher A. Ahmad
Serial No.: 10/645,739
Filed: August 21, 2003
Group No.: 3775
Examiner: James L. Swiger III
Notice of Allowance Mailed: October 7, 2009
Confirmation No.: 9156
Title: *Bone Anchor System*

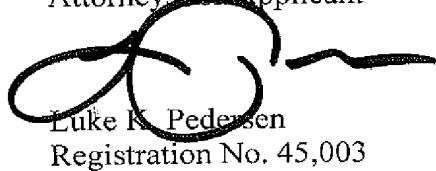
Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's allowance of Claims 12, 14-16, 42, and 45-47. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.104, Applicant respectfully issues a statement commenting on the Examiner's reasons for allowance. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's reasons for allowance to the extent that they are inconsistent with applicable case law, statutes, and regulations. Furthermore, Applicant does not admit to any characterization or limitation of the claims or to any characterization of a reference by the Examiner, particularly any that are inconsistent with the language of the claims considered in their entirety and including all of their constituent limitations.

Respectfully submitted,
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.
Attorneys for Applicant



Luke K. Pedersen
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Date: 12-30-09
CUSTOMER NO. 05073